

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY / NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY BETHESDA
BRAC INTEGRATION COMMITTEE
MEETING SUMMARY – JUNE 17, 2019**

- Nancy Abeles called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. BIC and audience members introduced themselves.
- Updates from Phil Alperson, Montgomery County Military Installations (BRAC) Coordinator:
 - Check out the County's BRAC sites:
<http://md355crossing.com>
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/>
 - Matters discussed at BIC meetings are detailed chronologically with background material on the website's "Get Involved" Page:
<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brctmpl.asp?url=/Content/EXEC/brac/getinvolved.asp>
 - Printable Timeline: Anticipated Construction-Related Traffic Disruptions in Bethesda:
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/resources/files/brac_projects_timeline.pdf
 - BRAC Transportation Projects and Commuting Options:
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brctmpl.asp?url=/content/exec/brac/projects_glance.asp
 - Phil reminded the Committee to get traffic and BRAC news and information first by following Montgomery County BRAC on Twitter @BracMoCoMD
- Updates on the MD 355 Multimodal Crossing Project at the Medical Center Metro Station -- Frank Kingsley (MCDOT), Phil Sheridan (Clark Construction):
 - News and documentation are on the County's comprehensive Crossing Project web site (<http://md355crossing.com/>) that supplements the County's BRAC web site (www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac) and Twitter account (@BRACMoCoMD). The site includes photos of the ongoing construction.
 - All excavation blasting for the 135-foot deep elevator shaft to the Metro mezzanine is complete. Blasting is also complete for the underground tunnel connecting the shaft to the mezzanine. Any further necessary excavation will not require blasting. Breakthrough into WMATA's mechanical facilities and the mezzanine has taken place.
 - Construction of the pedestrian underpass has been vigorous but completely out of sight because it is underground. Concrete pouring is almost complete. Elevator/stairway construction underway on each end.

- **Work that began March 2018 on improvements to the adjacent intersections of Rockville Pike/Jones Bridge Road and Rockville Pike/Woodmont Avenue/Center Drive (NIH) is nearly complete. We await PEPCO's relocation of utility poles in the road at the northeast corner of the intersection. The redesigned turn from westbound JBR onto northbound MD 355 will be completed after the poles have been removed. Final landscaping and roadwork are set for late summer.**
<http://md355crossing.com/single-lane-closures-on-rockville-pike-in-march-and-april-near-jones-bridge-road-and-woodmont-avenue/>

- **Update on MCDOT's Platt Ridge Drive Extension Project:** This project will extend Platt Ridge Drive northward from Jones Bridge Road into the Chevy Chase Valley neighborhood, and provide safe ingress and egress with a signalized four-way intersection. Clearing and grubbing is complete and construction of the new road is well under way, with completion anticipated very soon. The signal placed temporarily on JBR at Spring Valley Road will be removed. Progress on the Platt Ridge project has enabled SHA to move forward with Utilities Relocation on the MD 185/JBR Intersection Improvement Project.

- **SHA INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATES:**
 - **MD 185 (Connecticut Ave) at Jones Bridge Road:** Design of the intersection is complete. This will add a new lane on eastbound JBR between Platt Ridge and Connecticut Ave., to create an additional northbound left turn lane onto Connecticut. Because a portion of eastbound JBR traffic west of Connecticut will shift to the south, some lane widening will be required on JBR east of Connecticut to ensure safe traffic movements crossing Connecticut. SHA has modified the original plans to minimize impacts as much as possible on the Chevy Chase Park community. Utilities relocation to begin late spring 2019, after the MCDOT project at Platt Ridge Drive is finished. Roadway construction would begin about a year later. The project will take approximately two years.
 - **SHA June 10, 2019 announcement: Utilities Relocation at MD 185/JBR**
https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/Resources/Files/SHA-MD185_JBR-UtilityRelocation-061019.pdf
 - **SHA Dec. 6, 2018 Community Meeting announcement:**
<http://md355crossing.com/maryland-department-of-transportation-state-highway-administration-mdot-sha-newsletter/>
 - **SHA Project Update as of Feb. 19, 2019:**
https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/Resources/Files/SHA-MD185_JBR-Update-021919.pdf

- **SHA planned pedestrian Improvements at the intersection:**
https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/Resources/Files/SHA-MD185_JBR-PedestrianUpgrades-021919.pdf
 - **NOTE: This SHA link provides updates on all the BRAC Intersection Improvement Projects. Use the “Feedback” Tab to ask questions or register complaints:**
<http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/WebProjectLifeCycle/ProjectSchedule.aspx?projectno=MO5932125>
- **NSAB UPDATES: Swing space construction is complete and staff will relocate from interior campus buildings scheduled for demolition to precede eventual construction of hospital “Building C.” NSAB held a public meeting on January 8 on an Environmental Assessment for new facilities construction at USUHS, which is part of the NSAB Master Plan. NSAB always strives to be a good neighbor and is sensitive to matters such as overflow contractor parking and construction-related noise.**
 - **January 8, 2019 announcement of NSAB public meeting on Environmental Assessment:**
<http://md355crossing.com/naval-support-activity-bethesda-to-host-january-8-2019-public-meeting-on-draft-environmental-assessment-transportation-study-for-usuhs-expansion/>
 - **NSAB handout at Jan. 8 meeting (9 pages):**
https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/Resources/Files/NSAB-USUHS_EA_Transpo-Handout-010819.pdf
 - **NOTE: A DOD website offers a good overview of NSAB**
<https://www.dvidshub.net/video/537593/nsab-overview>
- **PHIL ALPERSON’S RETIREMENT, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019.**
 - **The Committee is concerned about how its work will continue after Phil’s departure and how Phil’s role will be filled by the County. The Committee noted the necessity of maintaining communications between the County and the community, not just on transportation project construction but on other matters of general concern around the heavily congested medical center neighborhood. Frank Kingsley noted that MCDOT is working with OEA regarding the BRAC Coordinator grant, but it is not clear how Phil’s duties will be handled. Sara Morningstar will be in contact with the County Executive’s Office and Aaron Kraut said that Delegate Friedson has an interest in this matter. The next BIC meeting is already scheduled for October 15, 2019.**
- **Nancy Abeles adjourned the meeting at 8:20 pm. The next Committee meeting is scheduled tentatively for October 15, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the BCC Regional Services Center.**

BRAC Committee members in attendance, June 17, 2018:

Nancy Abeles, Bethesda Crest and Chair of the BRAC Integration Committee
Phil Alperson, Montgomery County Military Installations (BRAC) Coordinator
Jeff Burton, Bethesda Urban Partnership
Ginanne Italiano, Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce
Frank Kingsley, Montgomery County Dept. Of Transportation
Ed Krauze, Bethesda Parkview Citizens Association
Richard Levine, Locust Hill Citizens Association
Janet Maalouf, Maplewood Citizens Association
Debbie Michaels, Glenbrook Village Home Owners Association
Patrick O'Neil, Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce
Eric Osberg, Stone Ridge School
Susan Roberts, National Institutes of Health
Ken Strickland, Chevy Chase Valley
Sara Morningstar, Montgomery County Office of Intergovernmental Relations (IGR)
Leslie Weber, Suburban Hospital/Johns Hopkins Medicine

Ex officio:

Ryan Emery, Naval Support Activity Bethesda
Jeremy Brooks, Naval Support Activity Bethesda
Shawna Lemonds, Naval Support Activity Bethesda
Joan Kleinman, Senator Chris Van Hollen
Ken Reichard, Senator Ben Cardin
Joseph Eyong, Congressman Jamie Raskin
A representative for Delegate Marc Korman (didn't sign in)
John Meyers (sp?), Delegate Al Carr
Aaron Kraut, Council Member Andrew Friedson

Other Attendees (signed in):

Derrick Harrigan, BCC Regional Services Center
Greg Humes, Chevy Chase Valley
Katie Mencarini, Montgomery County Planning Department
Jeanette Musil, DOD Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA)
Kevin Phelps, Clark Construction Group